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because his course as commissioner has "deeply wounded the patriotic pride of his own country and offended the provisional government of Hawaii." But was he not "my" commissioner, and did he not carry out the President's instructions when he "deeply wounded the patriotic pride of his own country?"

THE LAWLESSNESS AT TERRE HAUTE.

The action of Senator Voorhees's man, Donham, in seizing the Terre Haute postoffice Friday night in open defiance of what is equivalent to an order of the Postoffice Department to wait until Saturday night for the transfer, is the most remarkable in the history of Democratic lawlessness in Indiana. There is no dispute in regard to the situation. Mr. Greiner, the postmaster in charge, was presented with the commission and bond of Mr. Donham, who demanded immediate possession of the office. The business of the day had begun; the money-order office was running, and the sale of stamps was going on. If Mr. Greiner had complied there could have been no settlement of his accounts such as the law requires, because the condition of the business could not have been known at the hour the demand was made. Mr. Greiner telegraphed the department for instructions, and the Assistant Postmaster-general, who is in charge of that branch of the service, replied that "it is customary to transfer office Saturday night after business hours," and further, "so advise Mr. Donham and conform to custom." This is an order of the Postoffice Department; and yet Donham proceeded to seize the postmaster's office, and during the night broke into the interior of the building and assumed control of the office. The regulations of the department prohibit postmasters from employing, reinstating or removing carriers, yet Donham discharged every carrier found in the office and appointed a new force. The motive of this burlesque, under civil-service rules, of candidates for subordinate places in the office, it was done simply to secure the appointment of twenty carriers.

The whole transaction is in defiance of law as it is of public decency. After the telegram from the Assistant Postmaster-general, Donham had no more legal right to break into the Terre Haute postoffice than he had to gain access to the vaults of a national bank in that city by using burglars' tools. The time set for the transfer of the office was in accordance with custom. There was no unnecessary delay. The retiring postmaster had a right to hold the office until his accounts could be put in shape for the orderly transfer of the property and money, to the end that receipts might be received from his successor which would relieve him and his bondsmen from responsibility. This was denied. Like a burglar with pistol in hand rather than a commissioned official sworn to obey the laws, Donham demanded possession of the office without receipting for the property, and practically seized it by force. If Mr. Greiner had surrendered he and his bondsmen would have been held. If the subsequent action of Donham does not relieve Greiner from financial responsibility it is because his action is sustained by the Postmaster-general.

THE CLEARING-HOUSE SYSTEM.

The bank clearing-house system has been adopted by banking institutions in every city of any commercial importance in the country. The clearing house in connection with banks has become the greatest institution for economizing the use of real money in exchange that was ever invented. One of the most important functions of the clearing house, however, is to maintain the soundness and security of banking business. There are sound banks which are not members of clearing-house associations. There are such in this city for the reason that the deservedly high character of the managers commands confidence. Still, as a rule, the bank which is outside the clearing-house association is not accorded the confidence which banks should enjoy which are members of a well-conducted institution of that character. The bank, national or otherwise, which is refused admission to the clearing-house association where it is located, is a good one to keep away from. The reason is this: The clearing-house association will not admit a bank to membership unless it does its business in a conservative manner and can produce to experienced bankers evidence of financial soundness. This is essential, because the banks in a clearing house must practically accept as good the drafts of each other. As the result of a day's transactions one bank may be the debtor of the clearing house—that is, of all the other banks—and consequently its check must often be taken for that indebtedness. It therefore stands to reason that a bank which is suspected of actual weakness would not be admitted to membership. Another and very essential feature of the clearing house is that in time of sudden emergency to one bank all the banks of the association will come to its rescue if, upon a presentation of its affairs, it can show to the clearing-house managers that its condition will warrant it. A bank may have resources which cannot be made available at once, and which, if there should be a heavy demand upon its available funds, could not be used to prevent suspension. If such a bank were a member of the clearing house its associates would take the sound paper or collateral of such a bank and let it have the funds to meet current obligations while the stress was on. It needs no elaboration to prove to an intelligent person that the best bank is stronger by being a member of the clearing house than it can be standing alone, since it has behind it the combined support of all its associates in any emergency which may possibly come to the most reliable of banks once in a generation. At the same time clearing-

house membership must give confidence to depositors when the purpose of that organization is understood.

THE BUSINESS INDICATIONS.

It is now evident that the bank suspensions and other business embarrassments the past week are not indicative of any general business derangement or depression throughout the country. The bank suspensions are traceable to institutions which have been controlled in utter disregard of conservative business principles. As the natural result a few banks which were doing a legitimate business have been drawn into the disaster with those which were the first to fail. All of them can be traced to two institutions which have extended themselves over several States and have been doing an illegitimate banking business. The fact that the disaster stopped with the recklessly managed banks and their decoys, and two or three banks corresponding with them, goes to prove the general soundness of the banks of the country at large. There is nothing in the situation to disturb confidence in banks which are well managed. There is an abundance of money in the country to carry on its legitimate business, so that actual stringency cannot come unless people become suspicious and withdraw money from the channels of circulation. During the past week the Bank of England advanced its rate of discount to 3½ per cent, which indicates a fear of a call upon its gold reserves rather than a stringency of the market. The number of commercial failures has increased considerably compared with a year ago. Nevertheless, in the face of such unfavorable indications, the bank clearings indicate a large volume of commercial business, the aggregate being 11 per cent. larger last week than they were a year ago. In the purely speculative field the past two or three weeks have been anything but favorable. The so-called "industrial stocks" have been having a bad season, and similar railroad stocks of a speculative, rather than real, value have declined. The iron and the wool markets are considerably embarrassed. The former is due to overproduction and low prices. The supply was fully up to the demand before the presidential election. The result of the election was to check new manufacturing ventures which called for large quantities of iron and steel. Until that event there had never been, in the same period, such an expansion of industrial enterprises as during the year preceding it. Contraction followed, and that contraction has brought depression to the iron industry. The prospect of free wool has upset that market, since no one will purchase with a certainty of legislation which will reduce the price. European cables indicate a serious shortage of food products, due to long-continued drought, while the crop reports indicate that the yield of wheat in this country will be 100,000,000 bushels less than last year. On its face this would indicate better prices for wheat than have prevailed the past year.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Friends in both places. He hoped to go to Heaven at last. "Although I have warm friends," said he, "down in the other place."

Success at Last.

"You say she tried to stop a street car by whistling at it. Did she make a success of it?" "Yes, in a way. It wasn't her whistling that stopped the car, though; it was the face she made."

Fun in the Far West.

"When I first went to Kansas," said the man with the ginger beard, "the snakes on my farm was as thick as fleas on Johnson's yaller dog there. Me and my boys started in with clubs to kill 'em, and no doubt would have got away with all of 'em in that way, when an old Injun come along one day and showed us the mistake we was makin'."

Why, what was they good fer?" asked the grocer.

"They wasn't good fer nothin'," answered the man with the ginger beard, "but that ain't the p'int. You see, every one of them snakes and hole in the ground, and as many of 'em was big fellers, these here holes was big enough to trip up a horse and mebbe break his leg. Of course, when we killed a snake with a club, the hole he lived in when he was at home was left in the ground just the same. So Mister Injun put us onto a new scheme. The way was to let the snake get about half way into his hole, and then grab him by the tail and pull."

"Oh, I see," said the man from Flat creek.

"The snake would pull in two and that would leave the hole plugged up."

This really was the explanation that the man

with the ginger beard intended to give, but it would never do to admit that he had been anticipated. So he said:

"Now, Nothin' of the sort. You see the

snake would swell himself all up, so he couldn't be pulled out'n the hole, and we would keep on pullin' at him and perty soon snake, hole and all would be pulled right out'n the ground as slick as a whistle. After we had did that we'd take Mister Snake over to another hole that would about fit and pull it out of the ground in the same way. I tell you, what these Injuns don't know about the secrets of nature ain't worth knowin'."

The long-pending controversy in the United Brethren churches of Ohio and Indiana has been brought to what is probably a final settlement. Only the members of the church engaged in the dispute understood all the points upon which it was based, but within that organization it has been a matter of deep interest for several years. Judge Taft of the United States Court, has just rendered an important opinion in the case, his decision being in favor of the conservatives or "radicals." This is the division of the church which adheres to the old constitution and Confession of Faith. Sent was brought by conservative trustees, all living in Indiana, against the liberal trustees, all residing in Ohio. The liberals demurred to the conservative bill and the case, by consent of parties, was argued at Cincinnati in full in January, before Judge Taft. The decision of Judge Taft is a lengthy document, entering into the merits of the controversy and deciding in favor of the conservatives. Only two State Supreme courts have heretofore made decisions in this controversy—one on each side. This is the first decision of a United States Court in the controversy, and is consequently regarded as very important.

Mr. RICHARD HARDING DAVIS should take warning by the fate of the infant phenomenon which for a brief time delights its family and a circle of friends by its brightness and precocity and leads them to expect more brilliant performances as it grows older, but which expectations it never fulfills. Mr. Davis burst upon the world two or three years ago as a

writer of short stories; they were good short stories and attracted attention to the author. He proved to be a young man serving an apprenticeship as a newspaper reporter. From his position as reporter on a daily paper he was promoted to the managing editorship of Harper's Weekly and speedily succeeded in bringing about many transformations in that once staid sheet which do not seem altogether admirable to its old-time admirers. Scarcely was he ensconced in the editorial chair, however, before he secured leave of absence and made a swift trip from New York to California, "writing up" the country as he passed through it as if it were a new discovery of his own. Then he whisked off to Europe, and now the Harpers announce a series of articles giving the results of Mr. Davis's observations on the shores of the Mediterranean. Perhaps in the course of a few months, when he has girdled the earth and has told the public all he thinks it ought to know about the countries he passes through, he will return to do a bright young man, but as a letter writer is not an especial success, and his desire for versatility he may lose his gift for story writing, which is worth cultivating.

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

MISS ANNE WITNEY has finished a portrait bust of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, which will be exhibited by the women of the Association in the library of the Women's Building at the Columbian exposition. The bust will finally be placed in the public library at Hartford.

M. EMILE ZOLA, who is in indifferent health, due to hard work on his novel, "Dr. Pascal," is leaving Paris for his summer quarters at Medan, where he will take a short trip to London, to collect further material for his work on modern miracles.

MRS. GLADSTONE's friends give an interesting illustration of her faith in her husband. Three months before the general election she said: "When we go to Down, we shall want a new coat." Forthwith she set about finding a suitable person, and as soon as she discovered her engaged her in advance.

MRS. ORMISTON CHANDY occupies a pulpit every alternate Sunday. She has preached in the churches of all denominations, with the exception of the Church of England and Roman Catholic Church. As a rule, her sermons occupy three-quarters of an hour in delivery, but on one or two occasions she has preached for two hours.

Lady Henry Somerset speaks of having invited a number of the poorer people in London to her country home for a few days, and said all that she could do for them in the field and forest. One of the women, about to return, thanked Lady Henry and added in the kindest spirit: "But I pity her, for what she is doing is everything that is so uninteresting."

This only surviving officeholder under Jackson's administration is said to be Judge Benjamin Patton, who was at that time United States district attorney. He was present at Cleveland's inauguration, though he is eighty-four years old. He lives quietly on his great estate of nearly two thousand acres, known as Fontaine, near Hicksville, O.

The mother of Goethe is described as a woman of great imagination and the highest animal spirits. In the education of her wonderful son these gifts, with that of narrative, exercised a large influence. She was married at the age of seventeen. Late in life she said: "I and my Wolfgang have always held fast to each other because we were both young together."

An Italian in New York got so mad just because he was blackballed by a benevolent society, that when it paraded he tried to snatch the American flag from the color-bearer. He did not succeed. Every one of the sons of Italy fell on him, including the band, which thumped him with tubas, cuffed him with cornets and beat him with bassoons. The flag was torn in the struggle and the vandal has been held for the grand jury for malicious destruction of property valued at more than \$25. When a man in a great soul and thinks of a rule, he is found law enough to meet the case.

EXTRACT FROM OFFICE-SEEKER'S GUIDE.
Q. C.—How like a dog that little cloud appears.
O. S.—A dog, a dog, from tip of tail to ears.
Q. C.—But stop, a goat it seemeth now to me.
O. S.—You're right, a goat it is, we now can plainly see.

Q. C.—You're a reformer if it's not a cow.
O. S.—It is, it is, we truly do avow.
Q. C.—But no, it is a lion, I was wrong before.
O. S.—So true a lion, we can almost hear him roar.
Q. C.—It's like a donkey, once for all I do declare.
And he who says it's not let him beware.

O. S. (aside)—What a pity that our errand
Our friend does not
Induce in snuff,
That we might show him with what ease
We'd respond in a hearty sneeze.
—B. F. W.

Cleveland's Head in a Bag.

Philadelphia Evening Telegraph.
Those who have seen President Cleveland lately say that he is making use of a queer expression which shows that his mind is not clear upon many matters brought before him. A banker who spoke to him about the situation in the State of Ohio, Cleveland made a queer motion or gesture by which he seemed to surround his head with both hands, and then he said: "My head is in a bag. I don't see my way clear, but I shall see through this by and by."

Then a prominent New York man met the President by appointment to talk with him about the political situation in that State, and while they were discussing the proper treatment of Tammany and the State Delegation, Cleveland made a queer, waving motion before his eyes and said: "My head is in a bag, but I shall see clear in a little while, and then I shall know what to do."

Cleveland and Stokes.

Detroit Tribune.
It may be a little late in the game to criticize Mr. Cleveland's acts as Governor of New York in 1884, but many people will be interested in the fact that just after his first election to the presidency he granted pardon to Ed Stokes, the assassin of a State Senator, restoring that red-handed murderer to full citizenship. According to the New York papers the circumstances of the case point to the pardon being a reward for political services. It should be borne in mind, however, that this was long before the Governor-President went into the conservation business on any such scale as has distinguished his later public life.

The Three Bank Failures.

Philadelphia Inquirer.
Banks just starting in business have to offer inducements to attract patrons from the older institutions, and frequently they secure many customers the old banks are quite ready to spare. In two of the banks at least the officers discounted paper that was not strictly first-class, and naturally they were in no condition to meet any unusual strain. The president of one was known for his readiness to accept shady paper, and another institution could not secure admission to the clearing house, and not bad business caused the failures.

Great Head.

Boston Journal.
In Controller Eckels's speech the other day at Washington there was a distinct reference to the nation's banks and their competition for the State banks. Is this one of young Mr. Eckels's "splendid ideas?"

A Political Mist.

Crawfordsville (Ind.) Journal.
Secretary Gresham must feel very lonesome in the company of men who never speak of the war except to swear about the pensions.

Must Mean "Never."

Atlanta Constitution.
The South has ever been modest in the matter of office seeking.

CHRISTIANS AS OPTIMISTS

Bishop Walden, of Cincinnati, Explains the Tendency of Nature's Forces.

They Move to the Good of Those Who Love God—A Widely-Known Churchman in the Pulpit of Roberts Park Church.

Bishop John M. Walden, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, preached at Roberts Park M. E. Church yesterday morning, delivering a discourse as bright with optimism as a spring day. He prefaced his theme with a few thoughts on optimism, proclaiming all true Christians, true patriots, true fathers and true husbands as stanch types of optimists. His text was from Romans viii, 28: "And we know all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose." This verse, the Bishop said, was one of the three climaxes of this wonderful chapter. It showed the high optimism of the Scriptures.

The Christian was always hopeful, continued the Bishop, for he knows all things work to the good, the great end. The lessons from this chapter of Romans teach the Christian that God is the author of all good, and that God is the author of all evil. Christ taught this providence in the beautiful lesson wherein He told men that every hair of their head was numbered. All things are so constituted that they work together for good to those who love Him. These things do not move of their own volition in isolated instances; they move together only for those that love the Lord. Material and moral things have a common influence on men, for much depends on the character of the men themselves. He who is controlled by the spirit sees the wonderful working of all things to his good. One man may stand entranced by a beautiful picture, while another passes it by with only a careless glance; one sees and profits by the art and beauty of the painting, the other loses all that is to be gained from the work of art. The wealth of the world depends upon our capacities to appreciate it. One woman loses her child and weeps in great sorrow, another, who loves the Lord, resignedly mutters: "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away; blessed be the name of the Lord." The Christian mother sees that the will of the Lord be done, and she knows that all things work together for her good and the good of the body.

Bishop Walden believes the apostle also had a deeper meaning and thought when he uttered the words recited. God has His children in mind, when He creates the things about us. The minerals, the trees and all things that fill or garnish the earth are made for man, and a special adaptation besides merely contributing to our physical comforts. The search for the minerals and the discovery of new forces develop the intellect of man, and in making him a more noble creature, the moral side of man's nature is developed. Had God merely intended the gold and valuables of the earth as a supply for man's comfort, why did He not scatter them on the surface, where they could be had for the taking? The world is built for man as he is, but God had a higher idea in His mind when He created the world, the earth alone. The earth is a probationary field adapted to his physical wants; it was not given him, however, as a place simply for residence, but as a theater for his redemption. The apostle had broad views when he said that all things work to the end of them that love God.

Becomes apparent, continued the Bishop, that moral forces dominate all forces in the world. "Honesty is the best policy," an adage that has so often stood the test of experience, is offered in evidence of this fact. The moral are stronger than the material laws. The Creator had the moral well-being and destiny of his creatures in mind when He made the world for them. Faith is a great moral law, and it forms the basis of prayer. It is so great that it is made the complement of redemption. Love, or the spirit of God flooding the hearts, makes all things work to man's ultimate end—to prepare him for another world. The process was compared by the Bishop to the coming of intelligence to a young baby. The loving ones gathered about the little child, and he was made to understand, watch each trial and each development of the infant. So the Lord sees the possibilities of a great soul and thinks of a rule, he is found law enough to meet the case.

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